

Message Text

SECRET

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DRAFTED BY EA:RBOAKLEY:KA
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TO AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 281159

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EXDIS, EYES ONLY FOR NEWSOM FROM HOLBROOKE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, RP

SUBJECT: U.S.-PHILIPPINE RELATIONS

1. BY NOW KEN BLEAKLEY WILL HAVE GIVEN YOU SOME SENSE OF OUR IMPRESSIONS AND FEELINGS ON HOW WE ARE DOING ON THE BASES, AND RECEIVED YOUR IMPRESSIONS. I WANT TO ADD A FEW THOUGHTS WHICH YOU MAY WISH TO SHARE WITH KEN AT YOUR DISCRETION. A SERIES OF EVENTS COMING TO A HEAD AT ABOUT THE SAME TIME MUST NOW BE VIEWED IN TERMS OF THEIR OVERALL IMPACT ON US-GOP RELATIONS. FIRST, OF COURSE, IS THE COURSE OF YOUR BASE NEGOTIATIONS. SECOND IS THE UNFORTUNATE PURSUIT OF THE UNGA SESSION BY IMELDA. WE ARE DISMAYED BY THIS EFFORT, AND MANY OF MY COLLEAGUES HAVE WANTED TO LEAD A WORLDWIDE CHARGE AGAINST THE PROPOSAL. THE CABLED INSTRUCTIONS THAT YOU RECEIVED WERE A COMPROMISE BETWEEN THE

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VIEWS OF THOSE WHO WANTED THE USG TO LEAD THE OPPOSITION, USING THE FULL EXTENT OF OUR BILATERAL LEVERAGE AND THOSE WHO FEARED THE CONSEQUENCES OF SUCH ACTION. THIRD, WE HAVE THE CONTINUING PROBLEM OF HUMAN RIGHTS ON WHICH YOU WILL RECEIVE A SEPARATE MESSAGE. FOURTH, AND RELATED TO THE PRECEDING POINT, WE HAVE THE REQUIREMENT TO VOTE ON IFI LOANS WITH HUMAN RIGHTS IN MIND. THREE SUCH LOANS ARE COM-

ING UP THIS WEEK IN INTERAGENCY COMMITTEES HERE. WE ARE FIGHTING FOR A DECISION TO VOTE FAVORABLY ON ALL THREE.

2. WITH ALL THIS IN MIND, IT IS VITAL THAT WE THINK IN COMPREHENSIVE TERMS ABOUT OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PHILIPPINES. TO THIS END WE HOPE YOU WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD AS YOU SEE FIT. WE WILL DO OUR BEST AT THIS END TO PROTECT THE OVERALL RELATIONSHIP AND ADVANCE THE BASE NEGOTIATIONS.

3. I BELIEVE YOU SHOULD PRESS FOR AN EARLY PRIVATE MEETING WITH MARCOS, BEARING IN MIND MY EXPERIENCE IN SEPTEMBER OF HIS HAVING LISTENED CAREFULLY AND SPOKEN FAR MORE FRANKLY ALONE AND SUBSEQUENTLY HAVING BACKED HIS MINISTERS DOWN ON SEVERAL KEY ISSUES. YOU WILL NEED TO TALK TO HIM ABOUT BASE ISSUES, NORMALIZATION (HUMAN RIGHTS), CONGRESS AND THE UNGA.

4. MORT ABRAMOWITZ AND I ARE PREPARED TO COME IN JANUARY RIGHT AFTER THE COM MEETING FOR A TALK WITH MARCOS ON A WIDE RANGE OF MATTERS, INCLUDING THE SORT OF STRATEGIC BRIEFING WHICH YOU HAVE SUGGESTED. IN THE INTERIM, MORT BELIEVES WE CAN GET THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY TO MEET MARCOS IF YOU RECOMMEND IT THROUGH NORMAL CHANNELS. CHRISTOPHER

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